

Together We Worship

In-Home Worship Guide

March 22, 2020

Call to Worship

We do not call God to come be in our presence during worship. It is God who calls us to be in His presence, and in response we call ourselves to gather. We may not be able to gather in person, but we can gather as a church in spirit, and we can gather ourselves individually in thought and focus. Even during difficulties in life – perhaps especially so – we’re called to focus our attention on our Creator. Let’s meditate on the words of David during a difficult time in his own life, who nonetheless refocuses his attention on God and on God’s unfailing goodness.

How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever?
How long will you hide your face from me?
How long must I wrestle with my thoughts
and day after day have sorrow in my heart?
How long will my enemy triumph over me?

Look on me and answer, Lord my God.
Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death,
and my enemy will say, “I have overcome him,”
and my foes will rejoice when I fall.

But I trust in your unfailing love;
my heart rejoices in your salvation.
I will sing the Lord’s praise,
for he has been good to me.

- Psalm 13

Sing: King of Kings

[\(Here’s a link to the song\)](#)

Sing: Blessed be the Name of the Lord

[\(Here’s a link to the song\)](#)

A Time of Lament and Repentance

In God's presence, we remember how often we turn our attention away from Him. In a time like we're facing now, two things become apparent: First, the tremendous extent to which we've come to rely upon the workings of the world and not the workings of our Creator. And second, that no matter how secure we may feel in the workings of the world, they are never be guaranteed and can be gone in an instant. Now is a time to return to God in humility and repentance, acknowledging and trusting that He is the only One who can eternally provide for our greatest needs. Meditate on these words from the prophet Isaiah, then have a time of quiet repentance before praying through song.

This is what the Sovereign Lord, the Holy One of Israel, says: "In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it." Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; therefore he will rise up to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him! – Isaiah 1:15, 18

Sing: Run to the Father

[\(Here's a link to the song\)](#)

Sing: Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

[\(Here's a link to the song\)](#)

Assurance of God's Grace

We do not have to wonder if God will give us grace and mercy. As the prodigal son is received at his father's house with open arms, so we know that our Father in heaven receives us with His open arms. We are assured of this through the work of His Son, Jesus. Hear these words which Jesus spoke 2,000 years ago, and which he speaks to you through the Spirit.

"My sheep listen to my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one." – John 10:27-30

Responding to God's Grace with Generosity

We give back to God our time, talents, and treasures, recognizing they all come from God. Currently, many have an abundance of time. An appropriate response to God's grace is to use this time to reach out through text or email to family who are not with you, friends who are away, brothers and sisters in faith who are worshipping from their own homes, and neighbors who may not know the peace of Christ. We encourage you to take a few minutes to do that now.

Although we are not meeting in person, the church continues to operate. To sustain the ministry of the Rock, we humbly encourage those who are able and who feel led to mail your tithes to the Church at the Rock at 150 W State Street, Oakdale, PA 15071.

For those who are experiencing economic hardship and are in need of assistance, the church is here to help. Please email mercy@thechurchattherock.org with your hardship. If you desire to help support the economic needs of those in the church and community during this time, please mail a check to the Church at the Rock with "Mercy" on the memo line. These funds will only be used to support local economic hardships.

Reading and Preaching of the Word

Just as God spoke into the world through His Son Jesus, he still speaks into our world through His Scriptures. We do not aim to just interpret the Scriptures – we want the Scriptures to interpret our world, even as it changes so rapidly around us. Before reading the Word and hearing from it, take a moment to pray that God would open the eyes of your heart to see Him and to hear from Him.

¹¹ Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (which is done in the body by human hands)— ¹² remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, ¹⁵ by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶ and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. ¹⁷ He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

¹⁹ Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit. – Ephesians 2:11-22

Listen to Pastor Devin's sermon [HERE](#).

Sing: Way Maker

([Here's a link to the song](#))

Benediction

May Christ dwell in your heart through faith, uniting you to all other believers around the globe. And may you rest in the peace bought by Christ, the peace that comes from being secure in the hands of the Father.